

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An article for delivering a drug and a nucleic acid, the article comprising:

a nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a backbone comprising a polyester;

a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle; and

a drug associated with an interior of the micelle.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is capable of passing through a cell membrane.

4. (Currently amended) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is DNA_x

5. (Currently amended) An article as in claim 1 wherein the drug is a cancer drug.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is stable at a concentration of greater than 5 mg/L.

9. (Original) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is capable of crossing the blood/brain barrier.

10. (Original) A composition comprising an article of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 1 wherein the ~~nanoparticle comprises a graft co-polymer having a backbone including~~ comprises tertiary amines, ~~at least a portion of the tertiary amines quaternized and bound to a hydrophobic side chain.~~

12. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim ~~11~~15 wherein the hydrophobic side chain comprises cholesterol.
13. (Original) An article as in claim 11 wherein the polymeric backbone comprises a copolymer of quaternized and non-quaternized tertiary ammonium groups.
14. (Currently amended) An article as in claim ~~13~~1 wherein the polymeric backbone further comprises an ester-~~ether~~ linkage.
15. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim ~~13~~11 ~~wherein the polymeric backbone comprises a polyester~~ wherein at least a portion of the tertiary amines are quaternized and bound to a hydrophobic side chain.
16. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim ~~13~~1 wherein the polymeric backbone further comprises a polyether.
- 17-43. (Cancelled)
44. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising:
a container including an amphoteric polymeric nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the polymeric nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a backbone comprising a polyester;
a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle;
a drug associated with an interior of the micelle; and
instructions for administering the nanoparticle to a subject.
- 45-48. (Cancelled)
49. (Currently Amended) ~~An article~~ A kit as in claim ~~144~~, wherein the nanoparticle polymer comprises a ~~polymeric compound~~ graft co-polymer.

50. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 49~~1~~, wherein the polymer comprises polymeric compound is an amphiphilic co-polymer.

51. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 50, wherein the amphiphilic co-polymer is a cationic amphiphilic co-polymer.

52. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 1 wherein the drug is not covalently or ionically bound to the nanoparticle.

53. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 1 wherein the drug is physically contained by the nanoparticle.

54. (New) An article as in claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises a graft co-polymer.